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Wilderness Resource
Distinguished Lectureship

14

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS ADMINISTERED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Michael Dombeck

The Bureau of Land Management

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UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

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Illustrations by Lorraine Ashland.

Foreward

Edwin E. Krumpe

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the fourteenth in the annual series of Wilderness Resource Distinguished Lectureships sponsored by the University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center. The Center's mission is to promote research and educational activities to further our understanding of wilderness and natural ecosystems and man's relationships to them. Our goal is to gain knowledge that can be applied to better manage our designated wilderness areas so that the public can enjoy sustained use and benefits from our wilderness resources. Since its inception in 1972, the Center has supported research projects in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest, with over thirty studies completed just in the last two decades.

The Center also helps sponsor four university courses, giving students opportunity to study wilderness principles and practices, wilderness field ecology, and, in the case of intern students, to gain first hand experience in wilderness management and research. At the national level the Center has sponsored a national conference on wilderness management, two national task forces, and conducted workshops and presentations at many other national and international research conferences.

Of our long-standing education traditions, the one in which we take most pride is the annual Wilderness Resource Distinguished Lectureship. In what has become a fine academic tradition, the Wilderness Research Center has sponsored the lectureship to encourage constructive dia-

logue and to broaden our understanding of the management and meaning of wilderness resources. Speakers of national prominence have been invited on the basis of their contributions to the philosophical and scientific rationale of wilderness management.

Tonight we continue this tradition as we hear the fourth in a mini-series of lectures designed to present a "vision for wilderness" in the four federal agencies responsible for managing the National Wilderness Preservation System -- the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. The agency that has the shortest history in managing the 104 million acres in the National Wilderness Preservation System is the Bureau of Land Management, which currently administers 68 wildernesses containing nearly 1.7 million acres of designated wilderness.

To this end we are honored to present Dr. Mike Dombeck who for the past year has served as Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management. As such, he has given strong support for a progressive program of wilderness stewardship, planning, and management on roadless lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Dr. Krumpe is principal scientist for the Wilderness Research Center and professor in the Department of Resource Recreation and Tourism.

Introduction

John C. Hendee

Fourth in the series of vision lectures, but one of the most distinguished lecturers, Dr. Mike Dombeck has been Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management for a year now since replacing a predecessor embroiled in several of the contentious issues with which any BLM directors must deal. Prior career experience includes Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary of Interior for land and minerals management after holding the position of Acting Assistant Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary himself for nine months. For three years prior to that he was Science Advisor and Special Assistant to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

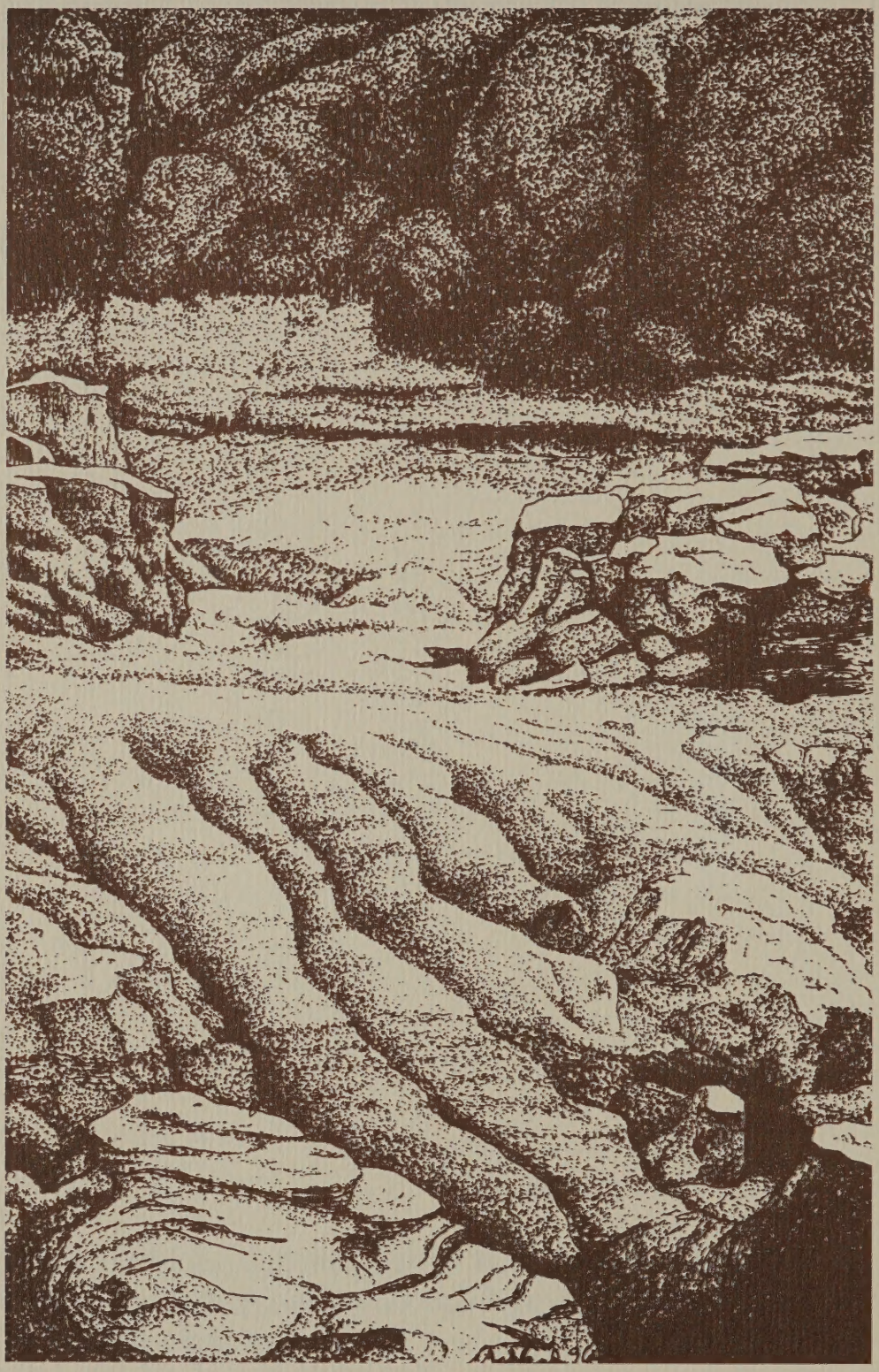
While Mike is a seasoned executive leader in the Department of Interior and BLM, he began his government career in the U.S. Forest Service as a fisheries biologist, serving first as a district fisheries biologist, then fisheries research project leader, regional fisheries program manager, and national fisheries program leader for the Forest Service. Prior to these positions he was a staff columnist for *Visitor Magazine* in Hayward, Wisconsin and an instructor of zoology at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

Mike's education includes a Ph.D. in Fisheries Biology from Iowa State, Masters Degree in Zoology from the University of Minnesota, and a B.S. in Biology and General Science and Masters in Biology and Education from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

Mike has a solid record of professional presentations and publications based on his science training in fisheries and substantial research on muskellunge reproduction ecology.

Mike Dombeck: renaissance man, scientist, educator, administrator, and executive leader.

John C. Hendee is director of the UI Wilderness Research Center and former dean of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences.



BLM lands in New Mexico

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS ADMINISTERED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Michael Dombeck

Thank you for the opportunity to present this lecture. Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have much to contribute to the National Wilderness Preservation System (hereafter referred to as "System"). I hope my presentation will demonstrate their contributions both in the present and in the future.

The theme of the current series of Distinguished Wilderness Resource Lectures has been the wilderness potential of public lands managed by the four wilderness managing agencies and visions of how that potential can be realized.

We are honored that BLM was saved until the other wilderness agencies (National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service) presented their

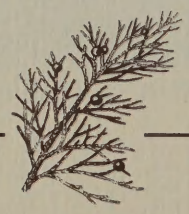
viewpoints and visions. I like to think the best was saved for last. Further, being last I should be able to capitalize on the previous presentations. BLM currently has the smallest amount of acreage of the federal agencies managing public lands included in the Wilderness System, but we have what I feel is a well founded wilderness management program that we have worked hard to build.

Having just concluded the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, we have heard a lot about the future for wilderness, and that has been the theme of your lectures. I hope that my presentation on the BLM wilderness program will contribute to the vision for the future of wilderness.

Background

As hindsight is always easier than foresight, let me start here. To make a long story short, BLM lands were not included in the provisions of the Wilderness Act when it was enacted in 1964. Why were these lands left out and/or excluded from the Wilderness Act? A review of the legislative history of the Wilderness Act indicates an absence of discussion about including BLM lands. Apparently in 1964 it was still an open issue whether the BLM lands should remain in federal ownership or were to be disposed of, with BLM going out of business. BLM lands were viewed as the lands nobody wanted, leftovers, remnants, or to quote some — forgotten legacy lands. I might add at this point, this oversight of BLM lands in the nation's wilderness program has since been remedied.

BLM lands were viewed as the lands nobody wanted, leftovers, remnants, or to quote some — forgotten legacy lands.



During the various debates leading up to passage of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the so-called "BLM Organic Act," this oversight was corrected when numerous arguments surfaced for including a wilderness review provision in this act to make BLM lands subject to the Wilderness Act.

FLPMA provided a clear statement of congressional objectives and mandates on retention and management of the public lands administered by BLM; Congress decided that BLM was not going out of business. Included in the various provisions of FLPMA was a special directive for BLM to undertake the study of its public lands and to make recommendations to the President of the United States as to which of the public lands administered by BLM were suitable for designation as wilderness and should be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System to be managed under the Wilderness Act. It was with the enactment of FLPMA then that BLM lands, and BLM as a management agency, joined the other three agencies as a full partner in management of the Wilderness System. No longer are the BLM lands forgotten!

To give you the background perspective of how BLM got to where we are today I will give you a short history of the Wilderness Study Program undertaken by BLM under FLPMA to bring you up to date.

Current Status

The FLPMA specified the various activities which were to be undertaken in the review and study of the public lands administered by the BLM. The FLPMA also set deadlines for reporting wilderness recommendations and specified how the lands under wilderness review were to be managed, and continue to be managed, pending final Congressional action.

The various phases involved in the BLM wilderness program include *1)* the inventory of BLM public lands for wilderness characteristics; *2)* protection of areas under wilderness review; *3)* research of identified wilderness study areas (WSAs); *4)* report of recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior; and *5)* management of all wilderness areas designated by Congress to preserve their natural character.

Inventory

The FLPMA required the BLM to review all roadless public land areas of 5,000 acres or more, and roadless islands, to identify those with the required wilderness characteristics. Areas less than 5,000 acres can also be considered in certain circumstances under the basic planning authority of the FLPMA. To guide the inventory on the 174 million acres of BLM land in the lower 48 states (Alaska was not included in the original inventory), the BLM developed a *Wilderness Inventory Handbook*. The handbook called for a two-step inventory process. Both steps involved broad public involvement.

During the initial inventory conducted between 1978 and 1979, areas that were generally recognized by the BLM and the public as obviously having no wilderness characteristics were eliminated from further wilderness review. This initial evaluation reduced the acreage under consideration to about 50 million acres.

With this acreage as the focus, the BLM began the intensive inventory. During this phase, conducted between 1979 and 1980, BLM resource professionals conducted on-the-ground inspections of each area to determine the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Public participation was encouraged, both during the field inspections and the public review of the BLM's intensive inventory findings. The public was responsive; more than 10,000 comments were received from across the country. At the end of the inven-

tory, the BLM designated the areas possessing the basic characteristics as wilderness study areas or WSAs.

At the completion of the inventory phase, BLM determined that over 26,000,000 acres, comprising over 800 wilderness study areas, located in 11 western states, qualified for further study to determine whether such areas should be recommended for wilderness designation.

Interim Protection and Management of Wilderness Study Areas

These WSAs are managed differently than the rest of our public lands. Interim management applies until the time a final decision is made by Congress as to whether they become part of the National Wilderness Preservation System or are released for non-wilderness uses.

To help the public understand which activities could and could not be authorized in WSAs, the BLM developed, with the public's help, the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review.

The policy closely follows the congressional mandate and provides that new activities be allowed in a WSA if they meet what is called the "nonimpairment" standard contained in the FLPMA. Congress said that lands under wilderness review were to be managed "so as not to impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness." To meet this standard, activities must not cause any significant impacts. Depending on climate, soils, and topography, this standard can accommodate some types of activities, but any long-term development will depend on Congress' wilderness decision.

Congress also said certain mining and grazing uses already in existence when the FLPMA was passed could continue. Commonly called "grandfathered uses," the law

says these activities can continue in the same "manner and degree" as when the FLPMA became law. Valid existing rights, such as valid claims under the 1872 Mining Law and mineral leases issued before October 21, 1976, are eligible for full development. Like all activities on public lands however, they must be conducted in a manner that prevents "undue or unnecessary degradation" as directed by the FLPMA. Applying such complex legal criteria on the ground on a case-by-case basis is a challenge. The BLM works very closely with all interested parties to ensure that interim management fully meets the requirements of the law.

Wilderness Study Areas

Once public land areas possessing the basic wilderness characteristics specified by Congress were identified, detailed wilderness studies began. To guide this effort, the BLM developed, again with the public's help, its Wilderness Study Policy. The primary goal of the BLM wilderness study process is to analyze an area's suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness. This analysis is made through the BLM's established land use planning system based on the resource data, evaluations made by BLM resource professionals in the field, and public comments. The wilderness values in the WSA are evaluated in the context of all the other multiple uses present in the area. The analysis is accompanied by an environmental impact statement and released for public review.

The central question in a wilderness study is: "Is this area more suitable for wilderness designation or more suitable for nonwilderness uses?" To answer this question, the study examines each WSA from three different standpoints: what are the area's wilderness values? What effect would wilderness designation have upon present and potential uses of the area? And what does the public think?

In analyzing wilderness values, the BLM considers the quality of the area's naturalness, its opportunities for solitude or for primitive unconfined recreation, and any special features such as geological, ecological, scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values. The study also analyzes whether wilderness designation would have any beneficial effect upon other resource uses and whether designation of a particular WSA would contribute to expanding the diversity of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

In the wilderness study process, trade-offs between wilderness and non-wilderness uses are examined closely. The BLM identifies all uses and potential uses of the WSA other than wilderness (such as energy and minerals or timber production) and analyzes how wilderness designation would affect these potential uses. The BLM then evaluates how the land would be managed if the WSA is not designated as wilderness, and analyzes how this type of management would affect these wilderness values.

Studies also examine the local social and economic effects of wilderness designation and consider whether designation would be consistent with existing land use plans of state and local governments, Indian tribes, and other federal agencies. Once the BLM completes its field studies and the public reviews the draft findings and recommendations, the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines complete mineral studies on areas initially recommended by the BLM as suitable for wilderness designation.

Reporting Study Recommendations

The FLPMA required the Secretary of the Interior to complete the review of the public lands for wilderness potential and report the findings to the President of the United States within 15 years (i.e. by October 21, 1991). The secretary's reports included the BLM's final suitability report, the final environmental impact statement including

analyses of public comments, the public hearings records, and the mineral evaluations conducted by the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines on any area recommended as suitable for wilderness.

...BLM manages 137 individual wilderness areas containing some 5,241,000 acres which comprise over 5% of the National Wilderness Preservation System Lands...

The final step of the reporting process is for the President of the United States to make recommendations to Congress. Only Congress can designate an area as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. However, sometimes Congress considers an area for wilderness preservation even if the studies are still ongoing and no Presidential recommendation has been made. When this occurs, the Department of the Interior testifies on the legislation using all available information to give Congress an idea of the area's suitability or nonsuitability for wilderness preservation. This situation occurred with the BLM Arizona areas when Congress in November 1990 designated over 1 million acres as wilderness.

All phases of the BLM roadless area review and wilderness study process are now essentially completed. On June 21, 1991, the secretary submitted recommendations to the President for California and on October 18, 1991, the States of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming. The President, after evaluation of the recommendations, concurred with the recommendations and transmitted them to the Congress over the period of May 1992 to January 1993. All recommendations are currently pending before the U.S. Congress. Special legislation in

1993 and again in 1994 affected certain BLM lands in Colorado and California, resulting in approximately 3,600,000 additional wilderness acres being designated and affecting BLM lands.

At the present time, BLM manages 137 individual wilderness areas containing some 5,241,000 acres which comprise over five percent of the National Wilderness Preservation System lands, now approaching 104 million acres. While still the smallest acreage in the system, BLM is rapidly gaining on the other agencies and as our wilderness reporting packages and recommendations are enacted into law by the Congress, we will become a major player in the management of the entire wilderness system.

Evolution of Wilderness Management Policy

BLM spent most of the decade of the 1980s conducting wilderness studies and preparing reports and recommendations to the President and Congress on BLM lands considered suitable for wilderness designation. However, BLM did not spend all of their time and effort on wilderness paperwork. With some luxury of time before large wilderness acreage designations started, BLM was able to get a head start on management policies in anticipation of future designations. During the 1980s BLM wilderness program staff developed wilderness management policies for BLM lands. The approach taken was to essentially "beg, borrow, or steal" the best from the other wilderness agency materials and methods. By being selective, BLM was able to cannibalize what they considered the best from the other agencies while at the same time screen out information and approaches we considered inappropriate or not applicable to BLM lands or conditions. For the most part BLM borrowed heavily from the U.S. Forest Service wilderness management policies because they are a multiple use management agency like us. The National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service policies often did not seem to fit as well since their missions are more limited.

Additionally, during the 1980s BLM participated in as many wilderness management workshops, seminars, and conferences as possible to obtain information. Participation by BLM personnel in training programs on wilderness offered by the other agencies was also encouraged. In short, BLM took every possible opportunity to buy time, gain lead time, and get out ahead on wilderness management before it happened. Of particular importance was the BLM's participation in the first National Wilderness Management Workshop held here in Moscow, Idaho, in October 1983, under the auspices of the University of Idaho. Out of that workshop developed a major policy document with respect to wilderness, entitled "A Five-Year Action Program." This document served as a policy framework for all wilderness agencies and particularly for BLM. It served as our overview approach to wilderness during the 1980s.

The BLM made a major management commitment to implement as many of the action program's recommendations as possible, again with the goal of getting out ahead of the curve on designation of BLM lands. What was particularly unique in the action program was that it represented a consensus approach to wilderness management by the affected system management agencies, as well as a significant commitment by other interest groups and organizations to wilderness management objectives.

As evidence of the value the action program served, it should be noted that the major product from the recent 6th National Wilderness Conference held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in November 1994, was the revisiting, updating, and expansion of the previous action program to serve as the wilderness management document for the next decade. It is the BLM objective to have the new action program serve again as our framework into the next century.

As an additional incentive to keep BLM going in the 1980s, Congress also saw fit to designate as wilderness a few areas scattered in parts of the states of Oregon, California, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, and Arizona. With these areas the BLM was able to "practice" wilderness management using the experience and materials developed early in the 1980s. This "learning through doing" approach was of great value to BLM when the first large increment of BLM lands was designated as wilderness in November 1990 with passage of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990; 38 areas totaling approximately 1,200,000 acres were added to the system. With this significant additional acreage BLM entered wilderness management in a big way. As BLM studies were packaged on a statewide basis and submitted to Congress, it became imminent that significant BLM wilderness designations and additions to the system will be a reality. For example, the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 included more than 3,500,000 acres of BLM land, and this excluded remaining BLM wilderness study lands in Central and Northern California.

...it seems reasonable that BLM will ultimately have 10-15 million acres more in the Wilderness System...with that much land as wilderness, BLM is a major player.

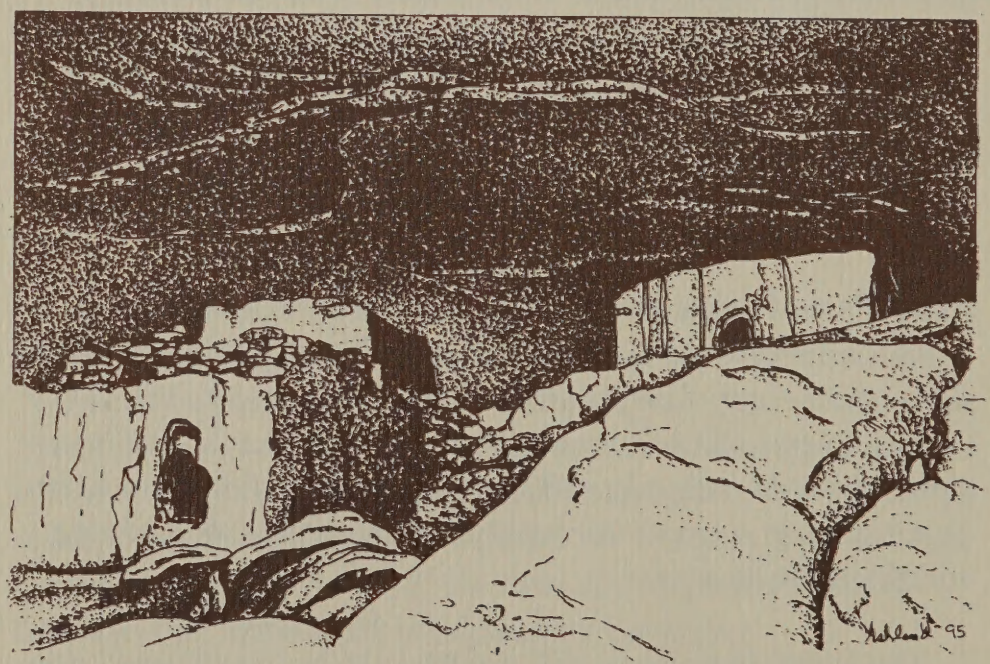
Near-Term Vision for BLM Wilderness Program

Visualizing the near-term status does not require clairvoyance on my part. The program essentially consists of continuing to provide effective management of the 5.2 million acres of BLM lands currently designated as wilderness while continuing to support the legislative process in designating additional BLM areas.

The legislative phase will continue to be the "flashy" part

of the program with a high degree of controversy, special interest group attention, intensive lobbying efforts from all sides, and fractious Congressional and public debate. It seems clear that the Congress will deal with BLM wilderness designations through the rather painful state-by-state approach. It is also clear that this sequence of events will stretch over many years, with final resolution even in doubt as to when it will be concluded. Battles will continue on such diverse topics as release language, aircraft overflights, water rights, the balance of acreage in gains and losses, use of motorized equipment, vehicular access, access for the disabled, grazing of domestic livestock, acquisition of privately owned inholdings, and mining.

What the final BLM wilderness acreage count will be is beyond even my special powers as acting director to predict. With the current BLM wilderness recommendations of about 9 million acres, not including Alaska, combined with the legislative history of Congress designating about one-third more acreage than agencies have recommended, it seems reasonable that BLM will ultimately have 10 to 15 million acres or more in the Wilderness System. Clearly, with that



Moonhouse ruin at Cedar Mesa. BLM land, Utah.

much land as wilderness, BLM is a major player. Beyond these observations, I will not speculate as to Wilderness System totals. Remember, only God and Congress can make a wilderness.

The "not so flashy" part of the BLM wilderness program consists of taking care of what we've got. BLM is currently responsible for the management of over 137 individual wilderness areas, located in ten states, containing over 5.2 million acres of designated wilderness as part of the system. This acreage already in the system requires active management by BLM if it is to remain viable as part of the system. The management workload for these areas is imposing. For example: boundaries have to be identified and mapped; signing and public information materials must be prepared; ranger patrol activities are needed to monitor use and to eliminate unauthorized uses such as motor vehicle intrusions; management plans for each area have to be prepared with full public input; and fire and wildlife management plans must be in place. Failure by BLM to do a good job of wilderness management on our designated wilderness jeopardizes not only the BLM wilderness lands but the entire system. BLM is committed to the Wilderness System and our role in it. We will continue to be as effective as possible in the management of wilderness areas under our jurisdiction.

Long-Term Vision for the BLM Wilderness Program

If I have to advance what single term or word best describes what BLM lands bring to the system it would have to be "diversity." There is no doubt that the BLM wilderness areas are different from most of the rest of the system lands, yet they are integral components of that system. It is these differences which bring greater strength and potential weakness to the system.

- ***Physical Characteristics***

To a great extent, BLM wilderness lands represent different ecotypes than those wild lands of other agencies. The

BLM areas are low desert, high desert, and basin land areas. They typically are at lower elevations, are less rugged/ mountainous, or are rolling to front range type topographic relief. Additionally, these areas are much smaller in size than most of the wilderness managed by the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where a number of their individual wilderness areas exceed one million acres, and areas in the six figure acreage are quite common. Being located in the arid areas, the BLM areas tend to exhibit geomorphic and geologic land forms not normally found in the higher, wetter, and more tree-covered parts of the system.

The location of the BLM areas also means that most of these areas are dry (no water) with no fuel (no trees or with limited brush), have no shade (no trees), and provide limited opportunities for overnight or longer term camping or hiking opportunities. Because of the lower elevation of these areas, they tend to be in closer proximity to urban or community centers than other agency wilderness areas which are typically more remote from population centers. Many of the BLM wilderness areas also have highway, road, or trail access to them or along their exterior boundaries. In part, this situation evolved from the study process which, in order to identify roadless areas, used roads as exterior boundary delineators, thus creating roadless areas with adjoining road access. This easy vehicle access to BLM wilderness areas contrasts with those of the other wilderness agencies where remoteness from road networks requires visitors to hike or ride horseback over many miles to reach the wilderness areas.

- ***Socio-Economic Characteristics***

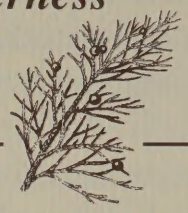
Most BLM wilderness areas had, and have, a history of previous use and authorizations for such activities as grazing of domestic livestock, hardrock mining, oil and gas leasing, off road vehicle driving, hunting and fishing using motorized

vehicles, snowmobiling, rockhounding, and numerous other multiple use activities which, with certain exceptions, are grandfathered as valid existing rights and uses.

In addition to the use history of the BLM wilderness areas, a large number of the areas are in geographic locations where climate, weather, and elevation enable virtually year-round or all-season use of the areas. The BLM areas are "open all year" which is different from many of the other agency wilderness areas which are only summer or early fall areas with naturally limited use after the "snow flies." The BLM areas, also due to their smaller size, access by road, and being close to towns, are essentially day use areas or weekend-only areas, as opposed to a number of other agency wilderness areas where week-long, expedition-type hiking and camping, and outfitter-/guides/packstrings may be operating. Another unfortunate reality is that a large number of BLM wilderness areas are "noisy." That is, they are located in areas subject to overflights and lowflying military and civilian aircraft operations. The solitude and lack thereof as quiet refuges from machine noises do not exist in a number of BLM wilderness areas and may in the future intensify due to more constricted public land availability for such activities. Thus, the sound of quiet may be further limited in the future on BLM wilderness areas.

The BLM wilderness areas also contain thousands of acres of state and privately owned inholdings due to land patterns and scattered ownerships throughout the western United States. The legacy of the land settlement pattern in the West rests with BLM as the custodian of the remaining open public land areas. The ownership patterns are such that "inholders" in BLM wilderness areas will require transit across BLM wilderness area lands to reach their inholdings. By law, BLM must allow such access, or in other cases acquire or exchange lands to eliminate the inholdings and block in the BLM ownership.

The BLM lands round out the Wilderness System with the diversity our lands bring...



Thus, the wilderness stewardship challenges for BLM are imposing and I have only touched on a few of the more obvious ones in this lecture. Most of you know full well the stories of wildfires, global warming, noxious weed invasions, air quality, water pollution, insect and disease intrusions, and a big list of other issues which continues to grow in severity and magnitude and affect the Wilderness System.

- ***Institutional and Management Characteristics***

Finally, I will conclude by discussing what I think are the greatest opportunities for contributions by BLM wilderness and wilderness managers. They are diverse. The BLM has both great constraints under which we operate as well as great opportunities for applying creative and innovative wilderness management. I like to tease my colleagues in the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, that anybody could manage their wilderness areas because they're so "easy." They don't have all of the "baggage" associated with them, as is the case with the BLM areas. Of course they disagree with me, but I still like to rub it in. The management challenges imposed by the *de facto* situations in BLM wilderness areas will test the abilities of our managers to cope and deal with diverse situations. We will have to find new methods for dealing with the public in our management practices.

Direct, hands-on ranger type law enforcement methods will not work. In addition, we don't have enough personnel to send to the field in such an approach. Indirect, educational, and informational methods will work best. Environmental education, brochures, visitor centers, bulletin boards, maps, and the like will have to be used in lieu of BLM staff.

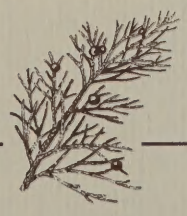
Greater use of volunteers will include senior citizen guides, partnerships with interest groups, and "Adopt-A-Wilderness" programs by local organizations. These creative and cooperative approaches will all have to be fully utilized to cover the workload. More collaborative management with adjacent land owners, state and local governments, Indian tribes, and use of private sector contractors will have to be considered. Less confrontation and more cooperation must be the hallmark of BLM wilderness management to get the job done. BLM wilderness managers will consider and solicit help from any and all possible sources.

BLM is also fully supportive of and involved in several major initiatives to expand multi-agency cooperation in wilderness research, education, and information sharing. For example, we are involved in the newly established Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute in Montana. We are involved in new training, education and information programs under the leadership of the interagency Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. We are an organizational sponsor of the newly established *International Journal of Wilderness* being launched here at the University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center. And BLM will continue to play a major role in the ongoing series of national wilderness conferences and World Wilderness Congresses.

I conclude my presentation at this point with an invitation to all of you in the audience, and all who will read this presentation, and any others we can recruit to assist the BLM in the management of the areas under our jurisdiction in the National Wilderness Preservation System. The BLM lands round out the Wilderness System with the diversity our lands bring to the system. This means we will have unique and diverse challenges. We need, and welcome, your assistance.

Wilderness Resource Distinguished Lectureships

1977	Sen. Frank Church	Wilderness in a Balanced Land-Use Framework
1978	Roderick Nash	Wilderness Management: A Contradiction in Terms?
1979	Cecil D. Andrus	Reorganization and the Department of Natural Resources: Implications for Wilderness
1980	Patrick F. Noonan	Preserving America's Natural Heritage in the Decade of the Eighties
1981	Russell E. Dickenson	Wilderness Values in the National Parks
1982	Michael Frome	Battle for the Wilderness: Our Forever Conflict?
1983	Wilderness Confer.	Issues on Wilderness Management (not a pub.)
1984	Brock Evans	In Celebration of Wilderness: The Progress and the Promise
1987	Jay D. Hair	Wilderness: Promises, Poems, and Pragmatism
1988	Ian Player	Using Wilderness Experience to Enhance Human Potential
1989	(Chief) Oren Lyons	Wilderness in Native American Culture
1992	William A. Worf	A Vision for Wildernesses in the National Forests
1992	Roger Contor	A Vision for Wilderness in the National Parks
1994	Bill Reffalt	A Vision for Wilderness in the National Wildlife Refuge System
1995	Mike Dombeck	Wilderness Management of Public Lands Administered by the BLM: Past, Present, and Future
1995	Jon Roush	A Vision for Wilderness in the Nation



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